

POSTAGE RATES.

Two Bills Introduced in the Senate to Regulate Them.

One Cent on Letters Not to Be Delivered By Carriers in the City.

A Congress of Indian Tribes at Omaha—An Expedition to Explore the Copper River Route to Be Organized—No Money for Sectarian Institutions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Friends of Senator Walthall (Miss.) say that there is nothing serious in his condition and that he will return to his duties in the senate chamber in a day or two.

The secretary of war has telegraphed instructions to Gen. Merriam, commanding the department of the Columbia, February 1, to organize and send an exploring expedition over the Copper river route in Alaska for the purpose of ascertaining whether a practical summer or winter route, wholly within the territory of the United States, for mail and supplies, or for mail alone, could be found to the mining regions on the Yukon between Forty Mile creek and Circle City. The organization of the party and the selection of the officers to command it have been left to the judgment of Gen. Merriam. In case a practicable route can be found, instructions were given to mark it that it could be followed hereafter.

The party is to take as far as practicable, such supplies as may be found to be practicable to relieve any persons in distress that may be encountered. The natives of the Copper River valley have been reported as aggressive and the officers in charge will be expected to use their efforts to conciliate them. The party will be instructed to proceed as far as practicable toward Circle City, and if deemed advisable to communicate with the relief expedition taking supplies to the Yukon, and the two parties will co-operate in the work of exploration. The expedition probably will make an entrance by Port Valdes on Prince William sound unless it be found that some other point is more advisable.

An erroneous impression has gained ground to the effect that the Spanish government has made a change in the command of the battleship Viscaya, now on her way to the United States on a visit in return for the visit of the Maine to Havana. It has been said that Capt. Conesa had been relieved from the command of the ship before she sailed on the ground that, having indulged in severe public criticism of the United States after his return from his visit to this country with the caravel, he might be regarded as persona non grata in America. The fact is, as shown by the Spanish naval register, that Capt. Conesa is and has for some time past been the commander of the cruiser Maria Theresa, and that the commander of the Viscaya is Capt. Eulate.

Judge Hagner, in the equity court Thursday made a ruling of far-reaching importance, holding in effect that it is unconstitutional for congress to appropriate money for sectarian institutions. The court granted an injunction restraining the treasurer of the United States from paying to the directors of the Providence hospital any money belonging to the United States or the District of Columbia, in accordance with an agreement between the commissioners of the district and the hospital directors.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Senator Penrose Thursday introduced two bills for the regulation of rates of postage. One of them provides a uniform rate of one cent on all letters with a minimum rate of two cents on letters. The other provides for one cent postage on letters not to be delivered by carriers in the city to which directed. These one cent stamps are to be tricolored, red, white and blue. Both bills were introduced by request.

Senator Allen's proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill providing for a congress of Indian tribes next fall at Omaha exposition, was favorably reported Thursday by the senate committee on Indian affairs. It provides an appropriation of \$45,000 for the service.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Japan has been removed as an element in the opposition to the consummation of the annexation of the Hawaiian islands by the United States. This result has been attained by the conclusion of an agreement between our government and that of Japan, as represented by Minister Terauchi, which, by practically settling the status of the Japanese in Hawaii, removes the only substantial difference that has existed between the two governments. The Japanese government, for its part announced some time ago that it no longer cared to interpose any objection to annexation of Hawaii based on principle. Since that time the correspondence between Minister Hoshi and the state department has been directed to a satisfactory settlement of the status of the resident Japanese in Hawaii, and this last point has now been adjusted, so far as the executive branch of our government is capable of acting independently, the agreement being reduced to the shape of a written memorandum.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—United States Minister Bellamy Storer reports to the state department that the total exports of raw sugar from Belgium in 1897 was 394,787,616 pounds of which 134,725,368 went to the United States. The exportation of refined sugar was 135,853,485 pounds and of this 1,193,808, known as pulverized, went to the United States.

The senate committee on interstate commerce Thursday decided to report the anti-trading bill with a recommendation that it pass.

A bill was passed in the house Thursday appropriating \$10,000 for a survey and report on the practicability of securing a 55-foot channel in the south-west pass of the Mississippi river. The

house then resumed consideration of the fortifications appropriation bill. Germany's order prohibiting the importation of American fruits into that empire called out a resolution from Mr. Davis (Minn.), chairman of the committee on foreign relations, calling upon the president, if not incompatible with the public interest, to transmit to the senate the correspondence and other information bearing upon the matter in his possession or in that of the state department. The resolution was agreed to.

JOSEPH H. CHOATE,

Of New York, the Guest of the Bar Association of Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—Joseph H. Choate, of New York, arrived here Thursday and will be the guest of the Chicago Bar association until Saturday. Friday evening a banquet will be given in his honor at the Auditorium hotel and on this occasion, it is expected, will draw together perhaps the most representative gathering of jurists and lawyers that has ever met in the west.

The two leading topics are: "Our Profession," Joseph H. Choate, of New York, "International Arbitration," Edwin F. Uhl, ex-ambassador to Germany.

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A FATAL VISIT.

An Arkansas Farmer Kills His Father, Mother and Son,

Wounds His Wife and Three of His Children, Two Probably Fatal.

The Murderer Then Set Fire to His Clothing, But Was Overpowered By Neighbors. After a Struggle—It Is Thought the Man Became Suddenly Insane.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 4.—One of the most horrible crimes ever perpetrated in this state took place in Franklin county Wednesday night. Sol F. Autrey, a farmer, accompanied by his family, went early Wednesday morning to visit his aged father and mother living near Mulberry. Shortly after his arrival Autrey became engaged in a religious argument with the old folks. Suddenly he grasped an iron bar, killed his aged father, mother and ten-year-old son and seriously wounded his wife and three remaining children, two of whom are not expected to live. His wife and eldest daughter, although badly hurt, managed to notify the neighbors. When they reached the house they found Autrey a raving maniac with his clothing on fire. He was overpowered after a hard struggle. The sight that met the neighbors' eyes was appalling. The three dead victims of the crazy man lay on the floor, beaten, burned and mangled almost beyond recognition. He has been chained all day, talking incoherently, swearing that witches were the cause of the act. Some doubt his insanity.

W. T. GILES, An Old and Well Known Newspaper Man Dies of Pneumonia.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—W. T. Giles, of Freeport, Ill., died at the residence of his son, W. S. Giles, in this city, after a brief illness from pneumonia. Mr. Giles was an old and well known newspaper man and has the distinction of establishing more papers than any man in the country.

Mr. Giles was in his 75th year. His newspaper experiences began when he was 15 years old in the composing room of the Ohio Patriot at New Lisbon, O., where he was born. In 1846 he established the Democratic Pioneer at Upper Sandusky. He went with the gold seekers to California in 1849 and in 1851 started the California Express at Marysville, and a year later the Mountain Echo at Downville. Returning to Ohio in 1853 he established the Wyandotte County Pioneer. In 1856 he went to Freeport and purchased the Bulletin, of which he was editor for over twenty years. He founded a paper in Montana, the Bugle at Council Bluffs, Ia; the Dakota Herald, at Yankton, S. D.; the Lee County Democrat at Dixon, Ill.; the Monroe (Wis.) Gazette; the Illinois Monitor, of Freeport, and in 1883 the Freeport Democrat. He retired a year ago.

Mr. Giles was a personal friend of Stephen A. Douglas and Wilber F. Storey.

DESTRUCTIVE BLAZE.

The Y. M. C. A. Building and Other Property at Scranton, Pa., Destroyed.

SCRANTON, Pa., Feb. 4.—Fire Thursday night totally destroyed the big Y. M. C. A. building, which contained two stores in addition to the association assembly hall and rooms, a large livery stable, a milk distributing depot and one of a row of two-story dwellings.

A dozen adjacent buildings caught fire but were saved with only slight damage. All of the city's 22 fire companies were called to the scene, and at 1:30 o'clock, two hours and a half after the blaze started, they had it under control. It is not possible to estimate the damage or insurance, but the former is probably \$225,000. The fire started from an explosion of a lot of cinematograph films used in giving exhibition curtain pictures in a vacant room.

It blew the front out and spread to all parts of the building, which was four stories in height and contained the assembly hall, John Raymond industrial school and other association departments; the sporting goods store of C. M. Storey; Mosher & Coleman's tailor establishment, all a total loss with no contents saved.

Another Reprieve for Worden.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 4.—Gov. Budd Thursday granted Salter D. Worden, awaiting execution at Folsom prison for participation in the wrecking of the overland train in Yolo county during the strike in 1894, another reprieve until June 17, this year. The reprieve was issued that the commissioner of lunacy appointed by Gov. Budd to inquire in Worden's mental condition might continue his investigation.

National Biscuit Company.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—All the biscuit and cracker companies between Salt Lake City on the west, Portland, Me., on the east, St. Paul in the north, and New Orleans in the south, are now under management. The name of the new corporation, which was incorporated Thursday in the state of New Jersey with a capital of \$25,000,000 of preferred and \$30,000,000 of common stock, is the National Biscuit Co.

CONDENSED NEWS

Gathered From All Parts of the Country by Telegraph.

Thursday's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$233,351,093; gold reserve, \$164,475,532.

Details received Thursday from Baliseer, Asia Minor, show that 30 persons were killed and 50 injured by the recent earthquake at that place and Brusa.

A railroad smash occurred on the Boston & Maine railroad at Winter Hill, Mass., early Thursday morning. Twelve persons are reported injured, one of whom may die.

The cost of the Cuban war from February, 1895, to the end of 1897, is officially estimated at \$240,000,000, besides the arrears due from the Cuban treasury, amounting to \$40,000,000.

The Massachusetts house Thursday passed the order of Senator Flynn for an investigation by the labor committee of the recent reduction of wages in Massachusetts textile mills.

Anthracite coal has been advanced ten cents per ton all around on the basis of \$4 per ton for stove size, other sizes in proportion. The advance is said to be the logical outcome of the present cold spell.

Some of the London afternoon newspapers Thursday refer to the absence of the Russian and German ambassadors from the marquis of Salisbury's regular Wednesday reception of the diplomatic corps as being a disquieting portent.

A number of senators and members of the house are arranging to go to Michigan later this month to attend the Lincoln banquet at Grand Rapids on the 12th and the Michigan club banquet at Detroit on Washington's birthday.

Reports say the rebel forces under Gen. Garcia inflicted a severe blow on the Spanish under Gen. Linares and Gen. Luque, killing several officers, including the son of Gen. Luque. Official reports say that 85 were killed or wounded.

Sir Samuel Scott, bart., conservative, has been elected to parliament without opposition for the West Marylebone district of London. He succeeds Sir Horace Farquhar, bart., also conservative, who was recently elevated to the peerage.

The senate Thursday confirmed these nominations: Col. M. I. Lindington, assistant quartermaster general, to be brigadier general; P. D. Barker, to be postmaster at Mobile, Ala., and W. T. Hutchens, to be postmaster at Huntsville, Ala.

At Buffalo, N. Y., Fred K. Katoli, who murdered Eugene Ledat in September last, striking him on the head with a hatchet and afterward burying the body in a manure pile, was Thursday night found guilty of murder in the second degree.

Frank K. Johnson, Wm. H. Johnson and C. A. Sharp, manager, cashier and president respectively of the defunct Midland State bank, Omaha, Neb., were Thursday held for trial in the district court on a charge of fraudulent banking. They gave bail.

Gentry Hicks and Keks, jr., sold to James and T. A. Parkinson, of Waggoner, I. T., 9,000 head of two, three and four-year-old steers to be delivered April 1, 1898. The deal amounts to \$225,000, which is the largest trade ever made by local dealers in the Indian territory.

A special to the Detroit Journal from Ishpeming, Mich., says the advance in wages February 1 at Carnegie mines of ironwood averaging ten per cent, will be general throughout the Gogebic iron range, between 3,000 and 4,000 employees being directly affected by the increase.

The senate committee on commerce Thursday authorized the reporting of a bill in accordance with the recommendation of the treasury department establishing a steamboat inspectors' district for Alaska. The purpose of the measure is to insure the inspection of vessels on the Yukon river.

Two cabinet officers were among the speakers at the annual banquet of the Merchants and Manufacturers' association held in Baltimore Thursday night. Secretary Gage, of the treasury, was the chief speaker, but ex-postmaster General Gary was also on the list, as were Congressman Dingley, Congressman Allen, of Mississippi, and United States Senator Wellington.

Forecast for Friday.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Temperature and Kentucky—Generally fair; warmer; southerly winds.

West Virginia. Western Pennsylvania and Ohio—Fair; warmer; fresh to brisk southerly winds.

Indiana and Illinois—Generally fair; warmer; southerly winds.

THE MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 2.

WHEAT—Spring fancy, \$4.00; spring family, \$3.95; spring patent, \$4.05; winter patent, \$3.75; winter family, \$3.65; winter extra, \$3.55; winter low grade, \$3.45; rye, northwestern, \$2.30; do city, \$2.25.

BIG WARSHIPS

Of England Will Fairly Swarm in Chinese Waters.

British Indian, Australian and Pacific Squadrons Receive Orders

To Be in Readiness to Reinforce the Fleet in the Far East—They Will Oppose Any Combination Opposing British Policy in That Part of the World.

SHANGHAI, Feb. 4.—The China Gazette says the British Indian, Australian and Pacific squadrons have been ordered to be ready to reinforce the fleet in the far east, thus giving the British admiral a fleet capable of coping with "any combination opposing British policy."

"In the meanwhile," adds the China Gazette, "the British claims in the Yang-Tse-Kiang will be supported by a strong squadron stationed at Chusan, to which place two other warships are en route. In the event of Russia hoisting her flag over the forts at Port Arthur, the British admiral has been ordered to hoist the English flag over Chusan and the Japanese fleet will ascend the Yang-Tse-Kiang as soon as the river rises. About 7,500 Russian artillery and cavalry and quantities of stores and munitions have arrived at Kirin, the capital of the Manchurian province of Kirin."

LONDON, Feb. 3.—According to a special dispatch from Shanghai, published Friday, two British warships entered Port Arthur Thursday and left without anchoring.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Appointed to Inquire Into the Improvement of the Mississippi River at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 4.—United States Senators Nelson (Minn.), Gallinger (N. H.), Berry (Ark.), Vest (Mo.), Elkins (W. Va.), and Representative Catchings (Miss.), composing the congressional committee appointed to inquire into the improvements of the Mississippi river left Thursday for Cairo, Ill., accompanied by the Mississippi river commission. At that place they will begin a trip to the mouth of the river on a government steamer for the purpose of taking testimony as to the condition of the levees and jetties and the prevalence of the floods. As a result of the trip a report will be made to congress recommending the steps necessary to be taken to protect the country along the river from the high water.

Prof. Moore, chief of the signal

service bureau, accompanied the party as an expert.

Potter Palmer's Mansion.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—Potter Palmer, the wealthy hotel man of Chicago, is about to build at Newport a mansion which, it is said, will be even more palatial and luxurious than any of the other beautiful summer homes now in existence there, including even the celebrated marble house built by Wm. K. Vanderbilt and now owned by Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont. Mr. Palmer, it is understood, expects to spend between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 on his new home.

In a Prosperous Condition.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—The colony of Russian Jews located in Lyon county, Nevada, three months ago, is reported to be in a prosperous condition. Thirteen families were taken from this city by the Occidental Colony Co., and Harry Pell, the agent of the enterprise, is now arranging to take ten more families to Nevada. The colony thus augmented will number 130 persons, who are settled on 5,300 acres of land.

The Prohibition of American Fruits.

BERLIN, Feb. 4.—The subject of prohibiting the importation of American fruits into Germany occupied the attention of the Bundesrath Thursday, when it was decided that importation of fresh fruit is only forbidden when the same is discovered to contain a plant bug. The prohibition does not extend to dried fruits, but the importation of windfalls, packing material and plant is altogether forbidden.

California Fruit Growers Not Alarmed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 4.—Among the fruit exporters in San Francisco the news of the action of the German government prohibiting the importation of American fruit has created no alarm. Albert Castle, of Castle Bros., voices the general sentiment in the statement that California sent too little fresh fruit to Germany to feel the prohibition.

Smothered by Coal Gas.

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 4.—The condition of Joseph P. Smith, chief of the bureau of Central American republics, was reported much improved Thursday. Hopes are entertained of his recovery.

RAILROAD TIMETABLES.

CINCINNATI DIVISION CINCINNATI AND OHIO.

East (No. 1) leaves Cincinnati at 6:15 a. m. and arrives at Washington at 10:15 a. m. West (No. 2) leaves Cincinnati at 6:15 p. m. and arrives at Cincinnati at 10:15 p. m.

Daily. Daily except Sunday. F. V. Limited No. 3 leaves at Washington 6:15 a. m. Baltimore 8:00 a. m. Philadelphia 10:15 a. m. New York 12:45 p. m. F. V. Limited No. 4 leaves at Cincinnati at 10:15 p. m. and arrives at Cincinnati at 10:15 p. m.

Washington Express No. 5 leaves at Washington 8:45 p. m. New York 9:05 p. m. Cincinnati 11:15 p. m. No. 6 leaves at Cincinnati at 11:15 p. m. and arrives at Cincinnati at 11:15 p. m.

Pullman Sleeping Car Service to Richmond and Old Point Comfort by trains 3 and 4. Direct connection at Cincinnati for all points West and South.

Trains 15, 17, 19, and 20 stop at the St. Charles Hotel for passengers.

For full information and rates at all points East and West apply to T. M. O'Connell, G. A. N. Southern Passenger Agent, Huntington, W. Va.

B. & O. S. W.

Depot, Grand Central Station, City.

Ticket Office, 2 E. corner Fourth and Vine streets. Telephone, 1142. Daily, except Sunday. Sunday only, 8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p. m.

Trains leave and arrive Cincinnati as follows:

OHIO DIVISION—TRAINS EAST.

Leave. Arrive.

12:05 p. m. Wash., Balt., Phila. and N. Y., with dining-car. 6:30 p. m. Wash., Balt., Phila. and N. Y., with dining-car. 8:00 a. m. Parkersburg, Marietta and way stations. 2:35 p. m. Parkersburg and way stations. 10:15 a. m. Chillicothe & Hillsboro Ex. 11:30 a. m. Pitts. and San. Day Ex. 5:45 p. m. Colum. Zan. Wheeling and Pitts. Night Ex. 7:30 a. m. Cincinnati and Columbus. Early Morning Express. 7:30 a. m. Columbus, Zan. and Wheeling. Fast Express. 7:30 p. m. Columbus, Xenia, Xenia, and Cambridge Express. 11:25 p. m. 6:15 p. m. Blanche and Intermediate Points. 8:30 a. m.

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION—TRAINS WEST.

9:00 a. m. St. Louis Limited, direct connections for all points West. 5:30 p. m. 8:15 p. m. St. Louis and Louisville. Night Express. 7:20 a. m. 8:30 a. m. St. Louis Special. 11:30 a. m. 8:40 a. m. St. Louis and Inter. Sta. 7:35 p. m. 8:15 p. m. Beardstown, Springfield, Pa. & Ill. 7:20 a. m. 9:00 a. m. Pana, Springfield, Beardstown & Shawnee. 7:20 a. m. 4:30 p. m. Mitchell and Int. Stations. 9:50 a. m. 4:30 p. m. North Vernon & Int. Sta. 9:50 a. m. 4:30 p. m. Louisville, New Albany & Jeffersonville. 6:05 p. m. 8:25 a. m. Lou. N. A. & Madison. 11:55 a. m. 2:35 p. m. Louisville & New Orleans through Memphis. 6:40 a. m. 11:20 p. m. Do. Night Express. 11:55 a. m.

B. AND O. S. W. ROUTE TO NEW ORLEANS VIA MEMPHIS.

2:55 p. m. Express, daily, has free Reclining Chair Car and Pullman Buffet Sleeping Car, Cincinnati to New Orleans, through Memphis, without change.

11:20 p. m. Express, daily, has Pullman Buffet Sleeping Car and Day Coaches, Cincinnati to New Orleans, through Memphis, without change.

For detail information regarding rates, time on connecting lines, Sleeping, Parlor and Dining Cars, etc., address J. M. O'Connell, General Passenger Agent, or G. B. Warfel, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Cincinnati.

FRANKFORT AND CINCINNATI RAILWAY.

FRANKFORT, GEORGETOWN, CARLISLE, MAYSVILLE.

Read Down. VIA PARIS AND K. C. Read Up.

A. M. P. M. 6:30 3:00 Lv. Frankfort. Ar. 11:55 7:20 8:00 4:30 " " Georgetown. " 10:40 6:30 8:40 5:10 " " Paris. Lv. 9:20 5:30 9:30 5:30 " " Mayville. " 5:25 1:30

Northbound. Arrive at Mayville at 9:45 a. m. All trains daily except Sunday.

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